

old Custom House opened its doors as the Key West Museum of Art and History, restored and operated by the Key West Art and Historical Society. One of Florida's architectural treasures, the Customs House will now serve as both a showcase for regional, national, and international fine art collections, and a repository of artifacts relating to the history and culture of the Florida Keys.

Originally completed in 1891 on the historic port waterfront of the island city, the Custom House was used as a center-piece of federal authority. Occupied at various times by the collector of customs, federal court, and postal and lighthouse services, the building has a long history of supporting the city's maritime-based economy. While Key West was the largest city and port in Florida, the Customs House became the center for taxation regulation and immigration.

It is crucial to note the importance of the Customs House at the national level, as well as at the state and local level. Beginning in 1898, during the Spanish-American War, this historic building housed civil service and naval activities. At one time, 104 naval vessels worked out of the port dominated by the Customs House. This occupation continued until 1976 when the Navy had to close its Key West sea base. Based on its extensive history, the Customs House is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and it is truly one of the most important architectural treasures in the state of Florida today.

Now, after a restoration effort which took nine years and cost approximately \$8 million, Key West's historic building is home to the Key West Museum of Art and History. Original woodwork, plaster, flooring, stone, brickwork, and fixtures have been preserved or carefully reproduced to make the revitalized Custom House both architecturally faithful. With this restoration process came the challenge of locating historically accurate materials and craftsmen with knowledge of century-old building techniques. This formidable challenge could not have been met without the aid of the Monroe County Tourist Development Council, various state agencies, individuals, foundations and corporations. Indeed, the entire Florida community and nation at large owe a debt of gratitude to all who gave the monetary support to this undertaking.

The Key West Art and Historical Society endows the new museum with excellent educational programs, services, and exhibitions, for children and adults alike. Housing a state of the art interactive public archive and research facility, the Key West Art and Historical Society develops programs in conjunction with the Monroe County Public Schools' curriculum, providing educational opportunities to over 8,000 Monroe County students, as well as thousands of other visiting school children and tourists.

For the "Community Opening" of the Key West Art and History Museum, the historical exhibition Remember the Maine returned to Key West and was installed in the USS Maine Room on the second floor of the museum. This is a fitting and historic placement for this exhibit, because of the building's prominent naval history. The first traveling art exhibit is scheduled to open on September 22, thus achieving the Society's goals of national recognition and acclaim.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the hard work and dedication that has gone into the Key West

Museum of Art and History. As the Museum officially opens its doors to the public, the Customs House is once again the site of a historical moment for the State of Florida, as well as the nation at large. On this joyous occasion, I would like to congratulate all those who have contributed to this important endeavor, and extend my best wishes for all success in the future.

THE RETIREMENT OF REAR ADMIRAL DONALD E. HICKMAN SUPPLY CORPS, U.S. NAVY

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, it is with the utmost respect that we honor the career of Rear Admiral Donald E. Hickman as a distinguished officer and gentleman of the U.S. Navy. Because of his constant devotion to his countrymen, we salute him.

Admiral Hickman embodies many of the values cherished by the Navy—integrity, honor, and tradition. He instills these values into all the sailors around him. His reputation as a reliable and upstanding officer made him a pillar of the Naval and civilian community alike. Rear Admiral Hickman's accomplishments demonstrate his strength of character and adherence to the Navy ethos.

Joining the Navy in 1962, then Ensign Hickman was quick to learn the charge and purpose needed to become a successful officer. As a lieutenant and then lieutenant commander on the U.S.S. *Independence*, he served as supply support officer with great distinction. Later in 1980, he was promoted to commander aboard the U.S.S. *Forrestal* as supply officer and then promoted to captain in 1984 while at the Aviation Supply Office in Philadelphia. Promotion to rear admiral (lower half) came in 1991 as he was elevated to Executive Director of Supply Operations at the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA). His advancement to rear admiral (upper half) came in 1995 as Director of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

As he ascended to the top brass of the Navy, Rear Admiral Hickman garnered many commendations that further substantiated his stellar career. They include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, two Legion of Merit Awards and four medals for Meritorious Service.

Rear Admiral Hickman provided our Navy with more than supplies and ordnance. He provided leadership and counsel to those who had the pleasure of being his acquaintance. It is with great regret that we see such a friend and patriot leave the military at a time when leadership is so important. Best of luck to you, Admiral Hickman, in your retirement.

TRIBUTE TO PAULINE BARCLAY

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Pauline "Polly" Barclay, who is retir-

ing after a distinguished 44-year career as an elementary school teacher in the Pacoima-Lake View Terrace area. Mrs. Barclay's commitment to education and her rapport with students of all races and backgrounds is legendary throughout the Northeast San Fernando Valley. She nurtured a love of learning in hundreds of children through the years and she is—to her colleagues and students—an outstanding example of the best our public schools have to offer.

Mrs. Barclay came to Pacoima in 1956, when she took a job at Vaughn Street School. She spent 4 years at Vaughn, and then a decade at Fillmore Street School, also located in Pacoima. Her next position was at Fenton Avenue School in the adjoining community of Lake View Terrace. She spent 23 years at Fenton Avenue, and then an additional 5 years at Fenton Avenue Charter School. This past year Mrs. Barclay taught at Coldwater Canyon Elementary School in North Hollywood.

Mrs. Barclay has often observed that "teachers must provide our children with a strong sense of values and respect for others, while providing them with the education and skills necessary to succeed." As her many honors and awards attest, Mrs. Barclay put this philosophy into practice in the classroom. In 1975, she was recognized by the Los Angeles Unified School District's Office of Urban Affairs School-Community Relations for outstanding contributions in improving relations between schools and the community. Ten years later, she was named Pioneer of the Year by the Pacoima Community Coordinating Council.

Mrs. Barclay has traveled extensively, and has made a point of sharing her experiences with fascinated students over the years. The many countries she has visited include Botswana, Yemen, Iran, Egypt, Cuba and Venezuela. I strongly suspect that Mrs. Barclay will be adding to this list during her retirement.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Pauline Barclay, whose devotion to her students and her passion for life inspire us all. I wish all the best to her and her husband, Dave, children, Steve and Danielle, daughter-in-law, Darna, and grandchildren, Candace, Chloe and Sean.

IN HONOR OF INFINEUM'S LINDEN TECHNOLOGY CENTER FOR BEING NAMED AN OSHA VPP STAR SITE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Infineum's Linden Technology Center for being awarded the star site status by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration under its Voluntary Protection Program.

A distinguished petroleum additives company, Infineum has continued to lead the way in employee health and safety. It has been an active force, committed to improving the quality of life for its employees and for the residents of the City of Linden and the State of New Jersey.

Because of its dedication to achieving the utmost in safety regulations for its employees,

Infineum's Linden Technology Center's program is one of the most comprehensive safety programs in the country. In fact, Infineum has voluntarily set the highest standards for safety and health at its facilities around the world.

The OSHA Star, one of the highest honors awarded by the department, hails businesses that not only comply with OSHA's strict health and safety guidelines but also strive to surpass them through additional self-imposed restrictions. This year, the Linden Technology Center has achieved this level of excellence and is recognized as an OSHA star site.

For its continued efforts in, and dedication to, occupational safety, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Infineum's Linden Technology Center, its management team, and all of its employees on being named an OSHA star site.

TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY NEILSEN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a truly incredible woman. For the last two years, Dorothy Neilsen has embodied a true spirit of charity. In 1997, she began to use her vacation time from her job in Aspen, Colorado, to visit Cimpulung, Romania. These were not, however, pleasure trips. She went to give any assistance that she could offer to the eight to eighteen month old infants and children who had been orphaned by the tragedies occurring in their country. Before she left, Dorothy also spent months of her spare time collecting donations of clothing, toys, and medicines.

Though she had to endure difficult living conditions, Dorothy was not daunted. She continued to work with the children and many of them blossomed in her care. She was dubbed "the angel" of the orphans by the agency that arranged her volunteer position. Dorothy also began to teach the workers at the orphanage about the positive effects that direct interaction, such as hugging and play, had on the children.

On her second month long trip to Romania she continued to work to better the lives of these children. She also caught typhoid fever which caused her to spend several weeks in bed recovering upon her return to the United States. However, even this did not deter her from planning a third trip to Romania. This trip, like the first two, were successes both for Dorothy and the children she went to help.

Mr. Speaker, few people are as selfless and giving as Dorothy Neilsen. She has volunteered a great deal of both her time and energy to children who have very little else in their lives. She has given hope to children in what would seem to be a hopeless situation. She has shown herself to be part of a rare breed. I feel that, as her fellow citizens, we own her a great debt of gratitude.

MICROENTERPRISES AROUND THE WORLD

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to laud the success of Microenterprises Around the World and in the United States as incorporated in H.R. 413, The PRIME ACT

In the last decade, microenterprise development has changed the way that we think about the alleviation of poverty. Before our encounter with microenterprise, far too many of us were mired in the belief of the intractability of poverty and the similar impression that the poor are little able to help themselves. With respect to small business and financial services especially, some allowed themselves to fall prey to the misconception that, with so many other concerns to which to tend, it certainly would not be possible for the poor to save or to appropriately access financial services, much less to start and run their own businesses.

Thanks to the stunning successes of microenterprise around the world, these myths have been exploded. Today, millions of low-income people around the globe have taken a little bit of capital and used it as a springboard to transform their lives and those of their families. Women especially have used microenterprise to change their lives for the better.

The lesson of all of this is that the poor, like everyone, have the desire to build and to grow, but that their access to the same services and advantages that many of us take for granted is extremely limited. Again, it is not a lack of desire, but a lack of access that has damaged the lives of low-income people around the world. When given the opportunity and similar access, the results are clear. Microenterprise has been a stunning success indeed.

Armed with numerous success stories from around the world, we now have an opportunity to apply them at home as well. This spring the Banking Committee heard testimony from microentrepreneurs, from researchers, and from those working in the field. The message was simple and clear. Microenterprise can, and does, work in the United States as well.

However, we also heard a clarion call for different services and support. Foremost among them was the deep conviction among those in the field of business training and providing technical assistance. Particularly for very low-income entrepreneurs, this training and technical assistance is the vital ingredient that can mean the difference between success and failure, between economic security and a fear of what the next day might bring, between food on the table for the children and another night of hunger.

But the field of microenterprise needs our support. We also learned in the hearings that this money for critical business training and financial technical assistance is very difficult to come by. H.R. 413, the Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs, would appropriate money to provide this assistance to those hard-working individuals who are most in need of it. This Congress is in a position to give the field a much-needed boost. And all indications are that there are many here in the House of Representatives who want very much to do

this. But H.R. 413 is a modest bill and with so much work to do over the next month, I worry that it will get lost in the fray of all that remains to be done.

And so I implore my colleagues today. Let us not allow modest, but absolutely important legislation like H.R. 413 be forgotten as we proceed in this Congress. Let us work together to pass H.R. 413 this year, and to provide immediate funding for it. This is an investment with returns, but only if we take the time to capitalize on it.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN KAZAKHSTAN

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 1999

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share my thoughts on a serious human rights issue. On July 16, 1999, the Congressional Human Rights Caucus held a hearing on the human rights situation in Kazakhstan. I attended the hearing and was moved by the testimony of witnesses before the Caucus. I would like to take this opportunity to share the following remarks, which I made at the hearing, with all of my colleagues.

The Congressional Human Rights Caucus is deeply concerned about the human rights situation in Kazakhstan and has called this briefing today to take a closer look at recent developments.

I am chairing this briefing on behalf of my colleagues, the Honorable TOM LANTOS of California and the Honorable JOHN PORTER of Illinois, the co-chairs and founders of the Human Rights Caucus. Both men are not able to attend this morning but that should not be taken as any indication that they do not take this matter seriously. The Caucus has for more than two decades been the leading voice in the United States Congress on the protection of human rights, civil liberties and basic freedom around the world. No one is exempt from our scrutiny or our concern.

Kazakhstan is a former Soviet Republic that held great promise early in this decade for moving toward democracy and a free market economy. But there has been a steady and alarming deterioration in recent years.

On January 10, 1999, President Nazarbayev was elected to serve a new seven-year term in elections considered by international standards to be seriously flawed. The United States Government and European Union both rejected those elections as illegitimate and refused to recognize the outcome. The Constitution, adopted in 1995 in a referendum marred by irregularities, permits the President to rule by decree and it cannot be changed or amended without the President's consent. Therefore both the executive and judicial branches are under the control of the President.

Government Officials routinely harass and intimidate political opponents. According to the State Department's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices 1998, "Members of the security forces often beat or otherwise abused detainees, and prison conditions remained harsh. There were allegations of arbitrary arrest and detention, and prolonged detention is a problem. . . . The Interior Ministry reported in September that 1,290 prisoners, or